

The Blade's Correspondence

The Blade is pleased to direct the attention of its readers to the sentiments expressed in the communications that follow hereunder.

Freethought is not dead! It may be slumbering, true, but when the conflict appears imminent the Soldiers in Liberty's great army are ever to strike a blow and furnish the means of battle.

From the numerous letters we have received and the pledges made the Blade takes great pride in its subscribers and friends. These letters are evidences of a supreme appreciation and an open admission of the Blade's importance to Freethought.

If any doubts were ever entertained concerning the stability of the Freethought hosts in America a perusal of the communications that follow will materially assist in dispelling it.

While the issue is yet in an unsettled state we extend our heartfelt thanks to those who have so nobly and generously responded. Read—

Has the Right Ring.

PELLA, IOWA.—I notice in the May 31st issue of the Blade that the Postal authorities are threatening to bar the Blade from the mails. You can put me down for one hundred dollars to defend that case. When we are threatened in that way we can easily see the necessity of organization. Freethought should be the watchword from start to finish. Every Freethought man and woman should be enrolled and be in touch with a central order so we could be ready at a moments warning to repel any onslaught of the foe. I was three years in the fight for the union, from '61 to '63, and I am ready for another fight on this issue. If they can bar the Blade from the mails they can bar every other Freethought paper in the country. And if they can do that they can apply the thumb screw argument also. We ought to be woke up a little. Any demonstration like you mention would reveal the fact that there are about 100 freethinkers in this country to where there is but one enrolled.—H. M. FISK.

Will Stay to the Finish.

CONNELSVILLE, O.—I see by your notice in the late Blade that the Blade has been reported to the post-office department by some smokestack of hell. I wish to say if you get in trouble you can count on me for \$10, and three times that if it should become necessary. I will stay with you until the fight is finished. Yours for liberty.—J. D. HOOPER.

Another Splendid Promise.

STOCKTON, UTAH.—Having just received copy of Blade for May 31st and read your call for help in case we have to fight for liberty against bigots. You can put me down for \$5. You can call for it whenever you need it for that purpose and will do more if the fight goes on. Yours in the gospel of liberty—HENRY BOOTH.

Ready to Respond.

WISORT, KY.—I have just read in last

B. G. Blade that there is a probability that the Blade will be excluded or an effort made to exclude it from the mails. I hasten to answer the call should one be made to be ready with my part of a sufficient defense fund to carry the war into Africa if need be. Yours for free speech and a free press.—H. G. SMITH

Would Sell Her Home.

MOLINE, KANSAS.—I see by the Blade of the 31st that the Blade is threatened by the postal law. If it comes to that I think we are none of us safe from the persecuting Christian. I think all free people will stand by the dear old Blade. I for one, will sell my home if need be to keep the old standby afloat. Yours for the good of the cause—ELLA T. HUNT.

"Will Dig up if Needed.

SIGOURNEY, IOWA.—I see by the Blade that the hordes of superstition from Canada are this time trying to "sick" Uncle Sam's inspectors on you. Poor blind bigots! But we cannot expect anything else from minds beclouded by superstition and depending upon popular superstition for an easy and respectable (?) living. We simply have to fight for our plain constitutional rights.

You may put me down for \$2.00 as my contribution to the defense fund if necessary. I am not "flush" by any means, but rather than see the U. S. mails tampered with further by these bigots I will "dig up" a 5 or more if necessary.—E. D. NAUMAN.

Poor and Old, but Willing.

NORTH WATERBORO, MAINE.—In case you are called upon to defend your case in regard to mailing the Blade you can call on me for five dollars would like to give more. I am a poor man and out of health. I shall be 78 the third of June 1908 and can do but a small amount of work. In case we cannot get the Blade through the mail let us have it by express once in a month or two.—A. W. TUCKER.

Puts Blame on Roosevelt.

SYCAMORE, KANS.—I notice in the Blade of May 31st that the powers that be propose to have an investigation as to the fitness of the Blade to pass through the mails of this God and morality country of curs. All reformers will have to keep their eyes open or the bigots of this country will exclude every thing from the mails that is opposed to their rot and superstition. One of our most deadly enemies is the Catholic Church. The priests of that deadly despotism never lose an opportunity to strike at freethought and suppress free speech and free press. Catholicism is the most dangerous ism that the world ever saw. The time is not far distant when the liberty loving people of this Republic will have to compel that institution to behave itself and keep its polluted fingers out of their business.

I believe that Theodore Roosevelt has done more to fasten Romanism on this Republic than any man that ever held office. He has

given the Catholic church a hold in this country that will take years to overcome. To my mind every move he makes proves that he is an enemy of this Republic and a traitor to all good government. He is a stench in GAL NINE BLADE

HIG my nostrils and I believe he is an enemy of every freethinker and reformer in this country and the sooner the people relegate him and his kind to private life the better. He and his henchmen have never lost an opportunity to stab individual liberty and free thinking, both in religion and politics. And I say to you that I am in this fight to a finish. I am a freethinker in both politics and religion. I am a socialist. In conclusion will say that if you do have to lock horns with that Hydro headed monster you can call on me for \$5 and it will be forthcoming.—J. F. MAYO.

Don't Want to Miss One.

DE MOINES IOWA.—Find enclosed \$1.50 to renew my subscription on the Blade. Your paper is great. If the songs of that band of angels sound as sweet to those shepherds as your writers do to me. Well I am as happy as I can be with them. I wish I could write all I feel. Don't let me miss one paper.—JEFFERSON STONER.

PERSISTENCE OF SUPERSTITION.

(Continued from page 3.)

One of the most astonishing things in human history is the rise and spread of these absurd and perfectly idiotic superstitions, and the herculean work required at the hands of scientific men to remove them from the brain of man; heredity, tradition, vested interests and the powerful influence of fanatical and interested leaders, all have to be overcome; it would be impossible to estimate the injury inflicted upon the human race by John Wesley, who was not only a fanatical propagator of the superstition of a divine revelation and a crucified God, but he was also a strong and powerful defender of the terrible superstition of witchcraft; another great injury was inflicted upon the ignorant masses of men by the famous reformer, Martin Luther, who was a firm believer in a personal devil, and on one occasion met his satanic majesty face to face, and tried to kill him with an ink-stand.

The sanguinary history of the witchcraft which darken the pages of history ought to kindle in every good man and in every good woman an earnest desire and invincible purpose to exterminate from the human mind the kindred superstitions which still prevail concerning ghosts, spirits, talking with God, getting religion, and many other stupidities transmitted to us from the dark and distant ages of savagery and barbarism.

Robert G. Ingersoll nearly ridiculed the devil out of the United States, and with a flood of tears which welled up from his great and loving heart, he extinguished forever the flames of hell; we must continue the noble work of this illustrious and immortal man, for there still remain a vile brood of pernicious superstitions that darken the social life, and utterly prevent many millions of men and women from acquiring natural knowledge, which alone can bring brotherhood, peace and happiness to the human race.

How long! O, how long will it yet be before mankind will learn that every priest of superstition is an enemy to the human race.

Muncie, Indiana.